

Abstract

An apparatus 11 for estimating internal biological time of a biological individual on the basis of quantity data of a gene product as measured in a specimen sampled from the individual.

The apparatus includes circadian oscillatory gene selection means for selecting circadian oscillatory genes whose time-course change in gene product quantity data as measured in standard specimens approximates a cosine curve having a predetermined period; circadian expression curve selection means for selecting, from among a plurality of cosine curves having different phases and sharing a specific period, a circadian expression curve which is similar to the pattern of time-course change in the expression product quantity of each of the above-selected circadian oscillatory genes; and registration means for registering information which identifies the selected circadian expression curve.